

AMERICAN TO MANAGE ENGLISH RAILWAY



Henry W. Thornton, general superintendent of the Long Island railroad, has been selected as general manager of the Great Eastern railroad of England. Mr. Thornton entered the service of the Pennsylvania lines west of Pittsburgh on December 14, 1894, as draughtsman in the chief engineer's office of the Southwest system, and was appointed assistant engineer of construction of the Cleveland & Marietta railroad—one of the subsidiary lines of the Pennsylvania company, in May, 1895. He remained in that position until May, 1896, at which time he was engaged in topographical work in connection with surveys in southern Indiana, until August of the same year, when he was appointed assistant on the engineering corps of the Pittsburgh division of the Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati & St. Louis railroad, remaining there until March, 1897. Then he was transferred and detailed in charge of a party running levels on the Southwest system, until June, 1897. He was next appointed supervisor in Columbus yard and occupied that position until November, 1897, when he was appointed assistant engineer of the Cincinnati division. He filled that position until the spring of 1899, when he was detached and assigned by the general manager to special work.

On November 1, 1899, Mr. Thornton was appointed engineer of maintenance of way of the Erie & Ashtabula division, and on March 1, 1901, he was appointed superintendent of the Marietta division of the Cleveland & Marietta railroad. In May, 1902, he was appointed superintendent of the Cleveland, Akron & Columbus railroad, and on December 23, 1902, was transferred to the Erie & Ashtabula division. On February 1, 1911, he was appointed general superintendent of the Long Island railroad, and on November 14, 1911, he was advanced to general superintendent.

MAY BE IRELAND'S VICEROY

It is almost definitely decided that Prince Arthur of Connaught is to be the first home rule viceroy of Ireland. There was some talk of his succeeding his father, the duke of Connaught, as governor general of Canada, but this will not now take place, unless the unionists are successful in preventing the government from establishing a parliament in Ireland.

Like all members of the Connaught family, Prince Arthur is extremely popular, and besides it is considered that he would make an able and responsible viceroy, while his nearness to the throne and his personal intimacy with the king would have a great effect in soothing unionist susceptibilities in Ireland.

It would be difficult for Irish society to boycott a viceregal court held by the first cousin and the niece of the sovereign, especially after the latter had visited Dublin in person to open the first Irish parliament, which he will do if that parliament is ever summoned. There is little prospect, however, of the home rule bill becoming law early the coming summer, as nationalists and liberals have often declared would be the case. It is now predicted that Ireland's fight for self-government will not be ended before next fall.



PLAYED TENNIS WITH THE SHAH



Few girls from the democratic ranks of American life are given a chance to win a tennis match from a foreign potentate. And when it comes to matching one's skill against that of so august and exclusive a royal personage as his majesty, the shah of Persia, the opportunity is rarer still.

"It happened this way," says Miss Lucy Russell, daughter of Charles Wells Russell, present minister from the United States to Persia. "We had a friend who was one of the tutors of the present shah, who, you know, is still under age. This friend, when he learned I was soon to return to America, asked if I would not like to try a game of tennis with his royal pupil. Of course I was pleased at the opportunity and accepted the invitation. I can truly say that the young shah appeared to greater advantage during that game than at any other time I had the privilege of seeing him during my stay in Persia. With older people, and on the occasions upon which he receives, the shah appears exceedingly diffident and austere. But on a tennis court he shows all the informality, friendliness and enthusiasm which you might expect from the average youth in every-day life. He is exceedingly fond of the game and plays it well."

SLATED FOR NEW YORK POLICE HEAD

Politicians are discussing a report that George W. Perkins, financial backer of the Bull Moose party, stands ready to become police commissioner, if the position is offered to him, and many say they would not be surprised to learn that he will be appointed. On the other hand, they declare they will be surprised if Col. George W. Goethals, builder of the Panama canal, is the next police commissioner.

The report has already reached Albany that Mr. Perkins may get the office, and politicians there say it puts a different aspect on the police amendments contained in the bill now pending than when Colonel Goethals alone was mentioned to head the police department.

Mr. Perkins warmly supported the fusionists in the last campaign and contributed \$5,000 to the campaign fund of Mayor Mitchell. Mr. Perkins also has worked for the passage of the police bill urged by Mr. Mitchell. Mayor Mitchell can appoint Mr. Perkins police commissioner regardless of whether the amendments are approved by the legislature.



DIMINUTION OF SHEEP

DECLINE OF 3.4 PER CENT FROM 1913 IS NOTED.

Has Many Distinct Advantages as Farm Animal—Much More Economical to Feed Than Steer—Leads as Meat-Food.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A heavy decline in the number of sheep has taken place since 1910, according to the department of agriculture. In that year the number on farms as ascertained by the census was 52,448,000; the estimate for January 1, 1914, is 49,719,000, a decline of 3.4 per cent from 1913 and of 5.2 per cent from 1910.

Among the causes that have contributed to the diminution of number of sheep is the scarcity of labor required for their care, the high prices of sheep and lambs for slaughter, the displacement of sheep by expanding dairying, deficient pasturage and forage on account of drought, destruction by dogs, the settlement of range land previously occupied by sheep, and the low price of wool; also the increasing value of land.

The estimates of the department for the number of sheep on farms in the United States on January 1, 1914, show a decided decrease as compared with 1913, according to the department of Agriculture. The apparent tendency toward a decline in the number of sheep on farms has been noted for some time and has caused sheep raising on farms to be referred to as a waning industry. A word here concerning the economy of sheep and their place in agricultural practice may not be out of place.

As a farm animal per se, the sheep has many distinct advantages. The sheep is a much more economical animal to feed than the steer, returning a larger amount of gain per 100 pounds of feed eaten. When his capacity to consume roughage is considered, he is more economical than the hog. The sheep yields a double return—meat at an economical cost, and wool as a by-product—which will go far toward defraying the cost of keep. Sheep are prolific. A farm flock which does not yield at least 100 per cent increase is very poor indeed. A flock of sheep on a farm will, in time, clear it of weeds, without expense to the owner, if allowed to range the lanes, the stubble fields after grain is cut, and the cornfields after the corn is full grown. As a scavenger, even a goat is not more useful than a sheep.

As meat-food animals sheep have never been sufficiently appreciated in the United States. They are, however, of very great value. They must be classed with hogs and poultry as the most available animals to supply meat for home use on the average farm. They are readily slaughtered, the meat can be kept without difficulty, it cuts up without waste in sizes which are convenient for the average family, and the meat is nutritious, wholesome and palatable when properly cooked. The healthfulness of the sheep alone gives it front rank as a meat-food animal. Sheep rarely have tuberculosis or other diseases communicable to man.

The foregoing statements are axiomatic. If the sheep industry is so inviting, why do the farmers seem to be showing a tendency to curtail sheep raising? There are probably three principal causes.

First—Intestinal parasites, principally stomach worms, cause serious losses in farm flocks over the whole country, and almost entire lamb crops are sometimes exterminated. In no farming sections are sheep free from this danger, and no breed of sheep is immune, although some breeds—the Merinos, for example—are less susceptible than others. No infallible cure for stomach worms is known, but it is possible to control them economically by keeping the lambs away from the ewes except when nursing, and by a system of pasture rotation. Unless a farmer is willing to take precautions in the management of the flock he should not raise sheep.

SILO IN A SHELTERED PLACE

Much of Trouble and Loss Caused by Freezing Can Be Prevented by Exercising Little Care.

(By A. D. WILSON, Director of Agricultural Extension Division and Farmers' Institute, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.)

None of the types of silos put upon the market so far will keep silage in this latitude without more or less freezing taking place during the winter months, although those having air spaces in the walls seem to freeze somewhat less than the type having solid walls.

Experience has shown, however, that freezing can be kept within reasonable limits in silos of any common type by the exercise of a little extra care. A good tight roof should be provided and the doors should be kept closed as much as possible to prevent circulation of air above the silage and to keep in the heat generated by the silage.

In using, it is important to keep the surface of the silage level or even

nomically by keeping the lambs away from the ewes except when nursing, and by a system of pasture rotation. Unless a farmer is willing to take precautions in the management of the flock he should not raise sheep.

Second—Cur dogs are almost as great a hindrance to the sheep industry as parasites. The only protection against them is to keep the flock during the day where it can be watched and to put it into a dog-proof inclosure at night. An authentic case has recently been reported from Michigan where a flock of more than 200 head were all run to death in one night by two cur dogs. Dog-tight night folds can be built of woven wire at small expense.

Third—Farmers have not generally recognized the proper place of the sheep in agriculture in the settled regions. Too much importance is placed on wool. Except on the range where land is cheap, the wool should be regarded as an incidental—a side line to help defray the cost of handling. Raising sheep for wool alone does not pay on farms, and the attempts of farmers to make it pay is undoubtedly largely responsible for the prevailing opinion that sheep are not profitable on expensive land. Sheep are raised in England on some of the most expensive land in the kingdom, but they are raised as meat animals and not as wool producers; the wool is a by-product, as it should be in farm flocks.

If only 25 per cent of the farms on which there are now no sheep should have a flock of not over 25 or 30 ewes, managed with reasonable care and protected against dogs, not only would farm revenues be materially increased but a decided step in advance would be taken toward the solution of our meat supply problem.

Decline of Hogs on the Farm.

Although the estimated number of swine on farms January 1, 1914, 48,933,000, was 1.3 per cent more than the census number for 1910, the decline from 1913 was 3.7 per cent. This decline is partly accounted for by the extensive prevalence of hog cholera, by high-priced corn, by the deficient production of 1913 because of a severe long-continued and extensive drought and because of the high prices of swine for slaughter. Notwithstanding the high price of hogs for slaughter, farmers found that they could not profitably feed the high-priced corn. At the same time, the price of hogs per hundred pounds was high relatively, although not as high as corn. In this situation hogs were often sent to market underweight.

The average size of hogs on the farm January 1, has never been directly ascertained, but it may be computed from the average price per head divided by the average price per hundred pounds, as ascertained by this bureau. As a result of this operation, the average weight of a hog on the farm January 1, 1914, was 145 pounds; in 1913 it was 144 pounds, in 1912 140 pounds; and in 1911, 131 pounds. The marketing of low-weight hogs which has been frequently commented upon in live-stock and commercial papers during the last three years, is apparent in the foregoing average weights, which are apparently high because the lighter hogs have been sold off.

The average value of swine on farms per head January 1, 1914, was \$10.40, or 5.5 per cent above the average value of January 1, 1913, and 13.4 per cent above that of 1910. In consequence of the increased value of swine per head, the total value of all swine on farms is estimated at \$612,951,000, or a gain of 1.6 per cent over 1913 and 14.9 per cent over 1910. The diminution of swine January 1, 1914, was more than counterbalanced by the increased price per head of those that were on hand.

Keep Calves Comfortable.

It does not pay to turn little calves out where they will be exposed to cold blasts. A chilled calf is a sick calf, and sick calves are very unprofitable property. Give them a dry, comfortable bed.

a trifle high in the middle, not allowing a hole to form in the center, as is sometimes done when silage begins to freeze around the edges. We have never had any bad results from feeding frozen silage, but it will not keep long after thawing out.

Since most of the freezing is due to cold air above the silage, it is possible to afford considerable protection by keeping the surface covered with hay or straw, or better still, a blanket or canvas.

If in addition to these precautions it is convenient to build the silo in a sheltered place, there should be little loss or trouble from freezing.

Keep the Hogs Healthy. Young hogs should not be given crowded quarters. In order to keep them in a healthy, growing condition, a proper diet should be fed. Healthy individuals possess a certain amount of power to resist disease, and this plays no small part in preventing it.

Dairy Twins. The man and the cow are the twins of the dairy business.

FRUIT LAXATIVE FOR SICK CHILD

"California Syrup of Figs" can't harm tender stomach, liver and bowels.

Every mother realizes, after giving her children "California Syrup of Figs" that this is their ideal laxative, because they love its pleasant taste and it thoroughly cleanses the tender little stomach, liver and bowels without griping.

When cross, irritable, feverish or breath is bad, stomach sour, look at the tongue, mother! If coated, give a teaspoonful of this harmless "fruit laxative," and in a few hours all the foul, constipated waste, sour bile and undigested food passes out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again. When its little system is full of cold, throat sore, has stomach-ache, diarrhoea, indigestion, colic—remember, a good "inside cleaning" should always be the first treatment given.

Millions of mothers keep "California Syrup of Figs" handy; they know a teaspoonful today saves a sick child tomorrow. Ask at the store for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which has directions for babies, children of all ages and grown-ups printed on the bottle. Adv.

The fool-killer doesn't exist. If he did there would be no lawyers.

400,000 Settlers a Year

Immigration figures show that the population of Canada increased during 1913, by the addition of 400,000 new settlers from the United States and Europe. Most of these have gone on farms in provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Lord William Percy, an English Notionist, says:

"The possibilities and opportunities offered by the Canadian West are so infinitely greater than those which exist in England, that it seems absurd to think that people should be impeded from coming to the country where they can most easily and certainly improve their position."

New districts are being opened up, which will make accessible a great number of homesteads in districts especially adapted to mixed farming and grain raising.

For illustrated literature and reduced railway rates, apply to Dept. of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, or to

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